

SOVEREIGN 1001

Chapter 1001: Ink Steel

"Zuo Yue must have escaped from here! It'll be difficult to return here if I chase after him." Duan Ling Tian looked at the entrance of the stone staircase before him that was shrouded in a faint light shield. The expression on his face was terrifying.

The light shield before him was created by a unique Inscription Formation.

It did not matter who it was, it would remember one's aura as long as one crossed over it. As a result, one would not be able to cross over again in reverse direction.

Due to the fact that this Inscription Formation was created by a Martial Monarch powerhouse, only a Martial Monarch powerhouse would be able to forcibly remove it.

Otherwise, one would have to abide by its rules.

If Duan Ling Tian crossed over the light shield created by the Inscription Formation now and entered the entrance of the stone staircase, it was uncertain if he could catch up to Zuo Yue.

Even if he managed to catch up, it was likely he would not be able to return to the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace and continue on to the fifth level of Qing Feng Palace to search for Martial Emperor Qing Feng's remains and obtain the three Profundity Fragments.

According to Duan Ling Tian's estimation, Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body should be at the fifth level of Qing Feng Palace if he was not mistaken.

"I might not be able to return if I chase after him. Moreover, it's not certain I'll be able to catch Zuo Yue and kill him. However, Zuo Yue will definitely survive in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure if I don't go after him," Duan Ling Tian muttered, his face turned somber.

"If Zuo Yue managed to leave the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... Three of the second-rate forces, Anicca Sect, Izumo Sect, and North Nether Sect, will find out that I killed Xu Qing, Lei Zhong, and Lei Jun!"

"Xu Qing was the strongest person among the younger generation in North Nether Sect, and he was also the direct disciple of the Sect Leader of North Nether Sect... The people from North Nether Sect won't let me go once they find out I killed him!"

"As for Lei Zhong and Lei Jun, they were the strongest among the younger generation in Izumo Sect. Lei Zhong was the direct disciple of the Martial Monarch powerhouse in Izumo Sect whereas Lei Jun was the Sect Leader's direct disciple... It's inevitable for me to be on opposing sides with Izumo Sect!"

"I might not have offended Annica Sect directly... But once they learn I'm the only one left at the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace, they'll assume I've entered the fifth level and obtained the three Profundity Fragments in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body. At that time, they definitely wouldn't let me go as well!" Duan Ling Tian could not help but smile bitterly at the thought.

The three second-rate forces in the northern desert would find out about him due to Zuo Yue's departure, and he would have enemies everywhere.

In addition to the group of Void Peak powerhouses from the three second-rate forces, he would also have to face at least three Martial Monarch powerhouses from the second-rate forces.

After all, the three second-rate forces had at least one Martial Monarch powerhouse in their respective sect.

Duan Ling Tian immediately felt extremely pressured.

"Should I try my luck and go after him? Maybe I'll catch up with Zuo Yue!"

"However, I might not be able to find him even if I do that... At that time, not only would I have given up on obtaining the three Profundity Fragments inside Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body, all three of the second-rate forces would find out about me!" Thoughts were spinning in Duan Ling Tian's mind. He gritted his teeth and finally made a decision.

"So be it! There's not much of difference to me whether I've offended one or three second-rate forces... There'll always be a solution to a problem!"

Before entering Qing Feng Palace, he had admitted to killing Lei Jun, the direct disciple of the Sect Leader of Izumo Sect. Subsequently, he killed Lei Zhong, the strongest person among the younger generation in Izumo Sect.

Due to that, he knew Izumo Sect would be offended unless he managed to kill all the eyewitnesses.

Otherwise, Izumo Sect would discover, sooner or later, that he was the one who killed Lei Zhong and Lei Jun.

"If I'm not afraid of Izumo Sect... Why should I be afraid of North Nether Sect and Anicca Sect that's equally as famous as Izumo Sect?!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened when he thought about this.

At this moment, he exuded a strong sense of confidence that spoke of fearlessness.

Since Duan Ling Tian managed to sort his thoughts out, he dismissed all thoughts of Zuo Yue's escape.

The three largest second-rate forces? So what?

Duan Ling Tian was not afraid!

Duan Ling Tian, who was filled with confidence, turned back to the Bumpy Road. He easily passed through the Bumpy Road and entered the central area of Qing Feng Palace's fourth level again.

In the central area of the fourth level, a body lay there quietly. It was Xu Qing's body.

Close to his body, a green vine extended from the ground and lifted up one of the floorboards.

A stone platform stood in another place. There was a small exquisite box on it, it was the box he suspected contained the gold key.

"It can be said that you saved my life." Duan Ling Tian moved and vanished from where he stood. When he appeared again, he was standing before the tiny box on top of the stone platform. He quickly reached out and picked the small box up.

When Duan Ling Tian opened the small box, a crescent-shaped gold key appeared before his eyes.

Apart from the color, the gold key was similar to the silver key and copper key he possessed.

'Three keys! I finally collected them all...' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he retrieved the other two keys and stacked them together.

When the gold, silver and copper crescent-shaped keys were combined, Duan Ling Tian could clearly sense the fluctuation of an Inscription Formation's aura from the keys.

"These three keys have an Inscription Formation on it?" The corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth twitched.

When the three keys were combined, he realized he had activated the Inscription Formation on it.

Rumble!

Rumble! Rumble!

...

Following that, loud noises came from above Duan Ling Tian and caught his attention.

Duan Ling Tian looked up, and he could clearly see the ceiling of the fourth level's central area slowly moving as it opened. It revealed a door to the fifth level of Qing Feng Palace.

Boom!

Duan Ling Tian's eyes landed on a huge box that fell in front of him after the door to the fifth level opened.

It was an extremely ordinary looking black box, but it brought an extraordinary feeling to Duan Ling Tian.

"This is... Ink Steel?"

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed when he saw the box. He said with a shocked expression on his face, "Isn't this a little too extravagant? The entire box is made of Ink Steel?"

"Extravagant! Too extravagant!"

Ink Steel was a type of crafting material that Duan Ling Tian found out about through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory.

If it was not for the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, he would not have recognized the Ink Steel.

Ink Steel was a type of crafting material that could craft a Quasi Royal Grade spirit weapon or even a Royal Grade spirit weapon. It was extremely durable.

If it was crafted by a grade one weapon craftsman, the Ink Steel must be burned by a grade one weapon flame for a full month for it to soften.

Three months was needed to liquify the Ink Steel. It was apparent how durable the Ink Steel was.

"It's impossible to try and break this Ink Steel with my current strength!"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head as he carefully sized up the box before him that was made out of Ink Steel. The box was shut tightly, and three similar keyholes were arranged in a row outside.

"These... are the keyholes for these three keys?" Duan Ling Tian could not help but look at the keys in his hands when he saw the keyholes on the box. His breathing immediately quickened.

He had expended a lot of effort to obtain these three keys, particularly at the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace where he was almost killed by Xu Qing and Zuo Yue. It could be said that he risked his life to obtain the gold key.

"In addition to the extravagance of being made of Ink Steel, it needs three keys to open... I wonder what treasure it contains." Duan Ling Tian was filled with excitement as he inserted the three keys in his hands into the keyholes accordingly.

Pa!

A soft noise sounded as the box opened under Duan Ling Tian's watchful stare.

Everything inside immediately appeared before his eyes.

A fiery-red Flexible Sword as thin as a cicada's wings lay quietly in the box.

It was different from the usual three-foot long sword, the fiery-red Flexible Sword was five-foot long with faint red light shimmering on it.

One could tell it was not ordinary the moment one laid eyes on it.

"This sword..." After a glance, Duan Ling Tian felt that the fiery-red Flexible Sword before his eyes was familiar.

However, he was absolutely certain this was the first time he had seen this sword!

"Unless it's not me but the Rebirth Martial Emperor who was familiar with it?" As soon as the thought crossed his mind, Duan Ling Tian began to search the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory.

Soon after, he found the answers he needed.

"It turns out this fiery-red Flexible Sword is a spirit weapon personally crafted by the Rebirth Martial Emperor back then... It's also a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword like mine!" After Duan Ling Tian discovered the origin of the fiery-red Flexible Sword before his eyes, he felt a little disappointed.

Meanwhile, the Polyphony Formation inside the box activated, and a voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. "Young man, congratulations on collecting all three keys. You managed to obtain the weapon I acquired by chance... This weapon is superior to a grade one spirit weapon, it can increase one's power by two-folds!"

It was a message from Martial Emperor Qing Feng. His voice held a hint of nobility.

Based on Martial Emperor Qing Feng's tone, one could tell he really cherished the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

"That Martial Emperor Qing Feng couldn't have imagined ... after so many years, the one who obtained this sword does not care for it at all." Duan Ling Tian sighed as he looked at the fiery-red Flexible Sword that was as thin as a cicada's wing inside the box.

He already had a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

Another one would not benefit him at all.

"In my eyes, this box is more valuable than the sword inside it."

Chapter 1002: Three Thousand Ancient Horned Dragon's Strength!

Ink Steel was extremely valuable, it was a necessary ingredient to craft a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Weapon and a Royal Grade Spirit Weapon.

Back then, the Rebirth Martial Emperor painstakingly obtained a limited amount of Ink Steel to craft a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Weapon and a Royal Grade Spirit Weapon.

The amount of Ink Steel then was not even enough to forge one percent of the Ink Steel box before his eyes.

"This sword..." Duan Ling Tian lifted his arm and took the fiery-red Flexible Sword that was as thin as a cicada's wings from the box. He held it in his hand and swung it lightly.

Oin! The five-foot-long fiery-red Flexible Sword instantly quivered as a melodious and clear sound of sword cry resonated. It was a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit after all.

Duan Ling Tian quickly put the sword away, and he did not forget to put the box that was made of Ink Steel away too.

In his opinion, the box was the real treasure. It would be essential when he needed to craft a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Weapon and a Royal Grade Spirit Weapon in the future. It was obvious that Duan Ling Tian was farsighted.

"Three keys to open the door to Qing Feng Palace's fifth level and to open a box that contains a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword..." Duan Ling Tian shook his head as he looked at Qing Feng Palace's fifth level. He did not go up but sat cross-legged on the ground instead.

Cultivate! Heal his injuries!

That was what Duan Ling Tian intended to do.

In his opinion, Qing Feng Palace's fifth level should be the resting place of Martial Emperor Qing Feng barring any surprises.

According to the test set by Martial Emperor Qing Feng for all four levels so far, it was not hard to deduce that Qing Feng Palace's fifth level would have a test that would be even more difficult.

"I'm afraid it's not going to be easy to search for Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body!"

"I'm currently injured. Moreover, I still have to absorb the Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy... I should continue cultivating and heal my injuries before I enter the fifth level!" After Duan Ling Tian made his decision, he focused on his cultivation and the recovery of his injuries.

Time passed quietly.

Duan Ling Tian did not know how much time had passed when he realized the Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy that was flowing with his Origin Energy in his body's meridians had completely disappeared.

Currently, his cultivation had reached the bottleneck that led to the Sixth Level Void Transformation.

"It can be considered good that it even lasted this long." Moreover, the Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy had also given Duan Ling Tian a pleasant surprise. "Although the Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy is gone, the Rebirth Pill's potent medicinal efficacy is still driving the Origin Energy in my body to circulate swiftly!"

"Let's get this done with one vigorous effort, and break through the bottleneck to progress to the Sixth Level Void Transformation!" Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply and continued cultivating.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Roving Dragon Form!

Although Duan Ling Tian was cultivating, he did not forget about healing his injuries and comprehending Concepts by holding two Concept Fragments in his hands.

The Wind Concept Fragment was naturally indispensable.

Currently, any improvement he made with the Wind Concept improved the Fire Concept as well.

That was why he would not waste this opportunity to improve his Wind Concept.

As for the other three Concepts, he spent more time comprehending the Earth Concept.

The reason was simple.

The Earth Concept could communicate with the earth and draw support from Earth Energy!

If he reached a plateau when comprehending the Earth Concept, he would comprehend the Thunder Concept out of the two remaining Concepts. That was because the Thunder Concept had a higher level than the Sword Concept.

He continued cultivating as he comprehended the Concepts.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian's injuries were rapidly recovering due to the Life Recovery Pill's medicinal efficacy. He was quickly healed and restored to peak condition. It was as though he was not injured at all.

Duan Ling Tian, who sat cross-legged, suddenly trembled slightly. Soon after, he opened his eyes, and there was a gleam in his eyes.

At the same time, his face was filled with surprise. "Sixth Level Void Transformation... I've finally broken through! The Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy has also returned to my Dantian," he muttered in surprise. A milky white flame rose from his body and caused the Heaven and Earth Energy above him to stir.

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirred and formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon. Ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared in the sky, they looked lifelike as they slowly descended.

Four hundred.

Five hundred.

Six hundred.

...

The number of ancient horned dragons' silhouettes kept increasing until it reached eight hundred before it stopped.

When the Sixth Level Void Transformation's Origin Energy was fully exerted, it was equivalent to eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength!

"There's also the Concepts!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened as the Earth Concept appeared and merged with the Origin Energy before it transformed into khaki energy that surrounded him.

When the Earth Concept appeared, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above him increased to nine hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes.

"It's really too bad that I can't draw support from the Earth Energy here due to the Bumpy Road's effect on Qing Feng Palace's fourth level... Otherwise, I would have another 50 ancient horned dragons' strength!" Duan Ling Tian sighed as he looked at the nine hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouette at the space above him.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian regained his composure.

In just an instant, the khaki energy trembled and exuded a swift and piercing aura. It was the Sword Concept!

The Ninth Level Intermediate Sword Concept appeared. The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above changed again. There was currently a thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouette.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

Thunder rumbled as purple lightning entwined and surrounded the khaki energy.

First Level Advanced Thunder Concept!

It was equivalent to two hundred ancient horned dragons' strength!

There were changes to the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above again as it increased to 1,200 ancient horned dragons' silhouette.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian's purple robe began to flutter as a gust of green wind rose up.

Another four hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared instantly at the space above Duan Ling Tian.

Hua!

Along with the appearance of the green wind, a vast flame that encompassed the sky resulted in the appearance of another four hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes.

It was the Third Level Advanced Wind Concept and the Third Level Advance Fire Concept that came from it!

Currently, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Duan Ling Tian had a total of two thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes. It was breathtakingly impressive.

However, it was not the end.

The flames soared even higher as the green wind merged with the flames.

The Wind Concept was fueling the Fire Concept!

Another two hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes instantly appeared. The Fire Concept's amplified strength was the result of the Wind Concept fueling the Fire Concept.

2,200 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes hovered at the space above Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes slightly.

"What if I use the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword..." A sword appeared in his hand as soon as the thought formed in his mind. It was the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword he had been using all this while.

The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above stirred when Duan Ling Tian's force entered the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword. Eight hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouette materialized out of thin air.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was at the Sixth Level Void Transformation. That meant his Origin Energy, when fully exerted, would amount to eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword granted a onefold increase which meant he had an additional eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength!

Three thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes gathered at the space above Duan Ling Tian. He was shocked to the core when he saw that.

It was a feast for the eyes!

"The sword in my hands currently possessed the strength of three thousand ancient horned dragons!" Duan Ling Tian gripped the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword and stared at the Concepts and Origin Energy that was intertwined with it. His face was filled with excitement.

'If I can draw support from the Earth Energy... My full strength would be equivalent to 3,050 ancient horned dragons' strength!' Duan Ling Tian became even more excited when he thought about it.

Hu!

Duan Ling Tian suddenly stood up with his sword by his side. His purple robe fluttered even though there was no wind.

His body exuded an aura of confidence.

"A martial artist at the Ninth Level Void Transformation has the strength of 2,200 ancient horned dragons if he fully exerts his strength without using a spirit weapon..."

"I don't have to be afraid if I have to confront a martial artist in that scenario! However, I'm no match for them if they use spirit weapons... even if it's grade two spirit weapons." There was no doubt the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand was of a high grade since it could double his strength!

Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was at the Sixth Level Void Transformation, his Origin Energy increased by twofold only amounted to eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

On the other hand, a Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artist had the strength of 1,200 ancient horned dragons when he fully exerted his strength.

Even if they used a mere grade two spirit weapon that amplifies 78% of their strength, the increase would grant them over 930 ancient horned dragons' strength.

Their amplified strength would defeat Duan Ling Tian!

"I didn't think expect to have a breakthrough in one go at Qing Feng Palace's fourth level... Originally, my full strength was only equivalent to 1,600 ancient horned dragons' strength!"

"I can now exert three thousand ancient horned dragons' strength! That's almost double the original amount." Duan Ling Tian was excited, and it took a long time for him to calm down.

After a while, he looked at the door that led to Qing Feng Palace's fifth level.

"It's time to go up there and find out... No matter what test Martial Emperor Qing Feng set up, I'll break through it one at a time and obtain the three Profundity Fragments in his body." Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed. He flew up and stepped in the air as he entered Qing Feng Palace's fifth and final level.

On the other hand, Zuo Yue had left Qing Feng Palace. Not only did he leave Qing Feng Palace, he had left the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure and returned to the entrance he came from.

Shou!

After he entered the entrance that belonged to him, Zuo Yue entered the Illusory Formation again. He headed back in the direction he previously came from.

"Duan Ling Tian, I want to see how you're going to escape the hunt from the three largest sects!" A sneer appeared on Zuo Yue's face, and coldness gleamed in his eyes as he flew out.

Chapter 1003: Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment!

In the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, two silhouettes walked side by side as they searched every nook and cranny in Qing Feng Palace's second level.

"I can't believe there's nothing at the second level... Don't you think the Martial Emperor's too stingy?" A red-clad young man rebuked as he frowned.

In comparison to the red-clad young man, the blue-clad young man next to him remained calm. His eyes were cold, and it seemed like he was not even listening to the red-clad young man.

If there were other people here, they would be shocked to see the two young men since they looked identical.

It was obvious they were the Nangong Twins from Five Element Sect, Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

Suddenly, the sound of wind whistling came from above.

Nangong Yi's expression immediately changed while Nangong Chen extended his hand at lightning speed toward the source of the sound and grabbed something.

"What the hell is that?!" Nangong Yi's response was slower so he could only look curiously at Nangong Chen.

Nangong Chen's usually calm face and cold eyes changed drastically when he opened his hands to reveal the object that fell from above. His face was filled with joy, and there was a hint of excitement in his eyes.

"Pro-Profundity Fragment?!" Nangong Yi was stunned. He gulped when he saw the two fragments in Nangong Chen's hand.

One of the two fragments in Nangong Chen's hand was surrounded by purple energy while the other one was surrounded by khaki energy.

'Thunder Profundity Fragment!'

'Earth Profundity Fragment!'

A familiar yet unfamiliar voice entered the Nangong Twins' ears before they could snap out of their surprise.

"Congratulations, lucky young men. Somebody activated the fifth level of Qing Feng Palace but didn't manage to obtain the three Profundity Fragments from my body in time..."

"Therefore, the Inscription Formation I left behind was automatically activated and expelled the two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments from my body. The fragments were sent to one of the Drop-off Points that was activated at Qing Feng Palace's fourth level. I've set up many Drop-off Points with Inscription Formations at Qing Feng Palace's fourth level... The Drop-off Points and Inscription Formations would activate as long as someone walks by."

The Nangong Twins were familiar with the voice that entered their ears.

They recognized the voice of the Martial Emperor who left this Martial Emperor's secret treasure behind.

Even the palace they were currently in was left behind by that Martial Emperor.

After they listened to the Martial Emperor's message, Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi could not help but look at each other. They could see the shock in each other's eyes.

'It works like that?'

'There are Drop-off Points with Inscription Formations at Qing Feng Palace's fourth level that was set up by Martial Emperor Qing Feng, and everyone on that level can activate them?'

'The two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments appeared in a Drop-off Point chosen randomly by an Inscription Formation... and we just so happened to be at the chosen Drop-off Point?'

"Isn't... Isn't our luck a little too good?" Nangong Yi snapped back to reality and gulped. His breath quickened, and it took a bit of effort to say that out loud.

"Yes." Nangong Chen nodded and agreed with Nangong Yi, which was a rare occurrence.

"But... Why aren't they Water Profundity Fragments?" Nangong Yi said, frustrated.

The two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments, the Earth Profundity Fragment and the Thunder Profundity Fragment, were not suitable for him.

However, the Earth Profundity Fragment was useful to Nangong Chen.

They would have to give the Thunder Profundity Fragment to the sect.

"I wonder who's that unlucky person... He failed to obtain the three Profundity Fragments in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body in time after activating the fifth level of Qing Feng Palace." Nangong Chen realized it was useless to cry over spilled milk and cast his frustration aside as he mocked the person Martial Emperor Qing Feng mentioned.

"If luck's on his side, the two Profundity Fragments would be his and not ours." It was rare for Nangong Chen to speak so much.

Compared to the Nangong Twins' excitement, Duan Ling Tian who had arrived at the fifth level from the fourth level was annoyed. He was extremely annoyed.

The source of his annoyance was none other than the message Martial Emperor Qing Feng had left.

"Young man, although you've arrived at Qing Feng Palace's fifth level, you took too long to arrive here after activating the fifth level..."

"Therefore, the Inscription Formation I left behind has expelled the two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments in my body to Qing Feng Palace's fourth level to search for their new master."

Duan Ling Tian was so angry he almost vomited blood when he heard what Martial Emperor Qing Feng said.

'I took too much time to come up here after activating Qing Feng Palace's fifth level?'

He took his time on the fourth level because he was worried Qing Feng Palace's fifth level might be dangerous. He decided to go up only after he had healed his injuries and broken through his cultivation base.

'I wouldn't have taken so long to come up here if I knew there are no tests on the fifth level.'

Duan Ling Tian felt angry when he looked at the green-clad skeleton near him.

Just because he arrived a little late, the two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body disappeared just like that.

As soon as he arrived, he realized Martial Emperor Qing Feng did not set any test on Qing Feng Palace's fifth level.

A skeleton that sat with its legs crossed was the only thing there. It was obvious that it was Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body.

Although Martial Emperor Qing Feng had been dead for many years, his skeleton was well preserved. He still remained sitting cross-legged in a cultivation pose. The entire scene gave off a morbid aura.

Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply before he retrieved the remaining Profundity Fragment in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body.

It was different from a Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment, energy did not sparkle around this Profundity Fragment.

Duan Ling Tian held the Profundity Fragment in his hand as a dark green energy that surrounded it released waves of terrifying aura.

Duan Ling Tian felt a wave of suppression when he came in contact with the aura. Shock was written on his face, and he could not help but stagger a few steps back.

"This is... An Emperor Stage Wind Profundity Fragment?" Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and looked at the Profundity Fragment in his hand closely. He began to browse through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, and soon after, he found the answer.

The Profundity Fragment he held in his hand was the Emperor Stage Wind Profundity Fragment!

"According to the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory... This Profundity Fragment should be a Second Level Emperor Stage Wind Profundity Fragment!" Duan Ling Tian found the answer after browsing through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory.

Second Level Emperor Stage Wind Profundity Fragment!

Duan Ling Tian's breath instantly quickened.

"With this Second Level Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment, I'll be able to comprehend the Emperor Stage Wind Profundity after comprehending the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity in the future!" Duan Ling Tian could not hold back his excitement.

It took him a while to calm down, but his face was still filled with endless excitement and joy.

At this moment, he had completely forgotten about the other two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments that he missed out on.

It was as if his world was focused solely on the Second Level Emperor Stage Wind Profundity Fragment.

'Zoop!'

After taking a deep breath, Duan Ling Tian shook a little when he put the Second Level Emperor Stage Wind Profundity Fragment away in his Spatial Ring. He finally managed to regain his composure.

"This is Qing Feng Palace's fifth level... There should be other treasures here?" Duan Ling Tian then continued to explore Qing Feng Palace's fifth level but his effort was in vain.

Apart from that Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment, there was nothing else here.

"I'm too greedy... The Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment is as good as the total value of all the other treasures Martial Emperor Qing Feng left behind." Duan Ling Tian smiled when he thought about the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment.

'I wonder who obtained the other two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments... Well, I should leave now since I've gotten my hands on the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. He left Qing Feng Palace's fifth level and returned to the fourth level. He went back to the stone staircase that Zuo Yue exited from.

'I wonder if I'll bump into Zuo Yue again... I'll definitely kill him if I see him!' A cold killing intent flashed in Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

After he walked down the stone staircase, Duan Ling Tian soon arrived at Qing Feng Palace's first level. He finally snapped out of his own thoughts when he entered the Illusory Formation again.

Under Martial Emperor Qing Feng's guidance, Duan Ling Tian walked out of the Illusory Formation and left Qing Feng Palace.

As soon as he left Qing Feng Palace, Duan Ling Tian heard a familiar voice.

"Duan Ling Tian!"

He lifted his head and saw Huang Daniu waiting outside. He did not know how long Huang Daniu had waited, but his eyes lit up when he saw Duan Ling Tian walked out.

"Hmm?"

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian realized there was a young man hovering in the air next to Huang Daniu. He looked extremely uncomfortable.

The young man's body began to shudder like a piteous beast just as Huang Daniu greeted Duan Ling Tian.

"He... He's a Five Element Sect's disciple?"

Duan Ling Tian recognized the young man after a while. "I think he's a Fire Peak's disciple."

He was familiar with Fire Peak.

Hu Fei, whom he had killed when he had just entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, was a Fire Peak's disciple from the Five Element Sect too. He was the Fire Peak Master's direct disciple.

"What?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Huang Daniu and asked curiously.

"Hehe... Duan Ling Tian, how are you going to thank me this time?" Huang Daniu smirked.

Duan Ling Tian was taken aback when he heard that and asked doubtfully, "Thank you? Thank you for what?"

"What if I tell you... I found the one who spread the rumor of you obtaining the Profundity Fragment to set you up?" The smile on Huang Daniu's face became wider and wider.

"You found that person?!" He must admit what Huang Daniu had said shocked him.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have recalled something and immediately shifted his focus. He looked at the Fire Peak's disciple who looked extremely uncomfortable as his body trembled uncontrollably.

Chapter 1004: A Change in Mentality

"It's you?" All of a sudden, a cold gleam flashed in Duan Ling Tian's eyes. It was as though he wanted to devour the person before him.

The Fire Peak's disciple's fear soared to its peak. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and decided to bite the bullet. He gritted his teeth as he said, "Yes, it's me." As the saying went, 'Dead pigs were not afraid of boiling water'.

"I don't think I know you. Why did you do it?" Duan Ling Tian's face became solemn after the Fire Peak's disciple admitted his wrongdoing. There was a hint of coldness as he narrowed his eyes.

"I owe my life to Senior Brother Hu Fei!" The Fire Peak's disciple said in a deep voice.

"Hu Fei?" Duan Ling Tian was stunned at first, but he finally figured out what was going on. The Fire Peak's disciple before him was taking revenge on behalf of Hu Fei whom he had killed.

'Hu Fei actually saved someone's life?'

Duan Ling Tian found that unbelievable.

"I didn't expect there would be someone who owes his life to Hu Fei!" Huang Daniu said mockingly before Duan Ling Tian could speak.

Hu Fei was the Fire Peak Master's direct disciple, and he was also once a traitor to Wood Peak.

In order to succeed, Hu Fei did not only betray Wood Peak that helped him achieve what he had, he even betrayed his own master who saved his life. Due to that, he had a bad reputation in the Five Element Sect.

If anyone else heard a bastard like Hu Fei actually saved someone's life, they would find it surprising as well.

However, Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu did not know the real reason Hu Fei saved this Fire Peak's disciple's life.

His intention was not pure, and it was more for his own benefit.

The Hu Fei that Duan Ling Tian knew was like a cold-blooded animal, he did not possess even a shred of kindness.

Everything he did was for his own benefit.

Selfish was his middle name.

"If that's the case... You can return your life to him!" Duan Ling Tian spoke calmly as he lifted his hand with lightning speed and formed a sword glow. It was so fast that even Huang Daniu could not keep up with what was happening, let alone the Fire Peak's disciple.

'Poof!'

A faint noise sounded as a bloody arrow pierced through the Fire Peak's disciple's throat. The blood splattered like red roses in bloom.

The Fire Peak's disciple's body fell on the ground like a block of meat.

Duan Ling Tian had always been decisive and merciless whenever he attacked.

"That's really fast!" Huang Daniu narrowed his eyes. Everything played out before his eyes in just a few seconds, he did not even have time to respond.

The only thing he saw was Duan Ling Tian lifting his arm, and in just a blink of an eye, the Fire Peak's disciple was dead.

He did not manage to see how Duan Ling Tian attacked from the beginning until the end. 'It seems like Duan Ling Tian had some interesting encounters in there... Otherwise, it's impossible for his progress to be this big!' Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian in envy as he thought about this.

Killing the Fire Peak's disciple was an insignificant matter to Duan Ling Tian.

Suddenly, he seemed to have recalled something. He looked at Huang Daniu with curiosity written on his face. "Daniu, how did you find out it was him?"

"Hehe." Naturally, Huang Daniu knew what Duan Ling Tian was asking.

He smirked before he said, "I met him in there... It so happened I heard him spreading the rumor. He was trying to set you up by telling the others you had obtained the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment." Huang Daniu disclosed everything to Duan Ling Tian in one breath.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned and looked at Huang Daniu with gratitude. "No matter what, I must thank you for this... Otherwise, I wouldn't have found out who was trying to secretly frame me."

Although the Fire Peak's disciple spread the rumor at the outer ring of the Martial Emperor's earlier, his evil plan did not end the way he wanted it to.

What he had done undoubtedly created a knot in Duan Ling Tian's heart!

Previously, Duan Ling Tian was eager to find out who was secretly framing him. Before he found the culprit, he would feel ill at ease whenever he thought about this.

The fact that the person who had framed him was alive and well in the world was undoubtedly a hidden threat to him.

"It's nothing, it's nothing! Moreover, you've given me a grade one spirit weapon earlier and helped me when we were in there... You can consider it as me returning the favor," Huang Daniu said generously as he waved his hand.

Duan Ling Tian nodded and did not dwell on the topic. Instead, he asked curiously, "Daniu, how long have you been out here?"

"About half an hour," Huang Daniu replied after thinking about it for a moment.

'Whoosh!'

As Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu were chatting, another silhouette flew out of the palace.

"It's a disciple from a second-rate force! Duan Ling Tian, do you want to kill him so he won't be able to spread nonsense when he leaves Entrance No.1?" Huang Daniu stared at the silhouette in the distance as a hint of ferocity gleamed in his eyes.

"No need." Duan Ling Tian shook his head. The Annica Sect's disciple had fear written all over his face when he heard what Huang Daniu had said from afar.

When Duan Ling Tian was heading out of the Illusory Formation, he had already figured out that Zuo Yue had most probably left Qing Feng Palace and the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

It would not take long for him to get to Izumo Sect from Entrance No. 2 and spread the news about him killing the two brothers, Lei Zhong and Lei Jun.

It was very likely that Zuo Yue would also tell North Nether Sect about Duan Ling Tian killing Xu Qing.

Moreover, Zuo Yue would definitely tell Anicca Sect, that he belonged to, about the Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment Duan Ling Tian possessed and also the likelihood of him obtaining the three Profundity Fragments from Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body.

At that time, not only would he have to face revenge from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect, he would also have to face Anicca Sect since they coveted the Profundity Fragments he possessed.

That would mean he would be targeted by the three great second-rate forces in the northern desert.

That thought alone gave Duan Ling Tian goosebumps. The three second-rate forces were like monsters to him.

The Anicca Sect's disciple was relieved when he saw Duan Ling Tian did not have the intention to attack him. He looked at Duan Ling Tian thankfully and left immediately.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

...

More people continued to leave.

Apart from the few surviving disciples from the second-rate forces, the survivors from the third-rate forces were also leaving Qing Feng Palace one by one.

Soon after, a familiar silhouette appeared before Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian could not help but smile when he saw the young man before him and took the initiative to greet him, "Xuan Bei!"

"Duan Ling Tian." Xuan Bei felt a little embarrassed when he saw Duan Ling Tian.

Back when he was at Skywolf Fort, he did not realize the person he had challenged possessed an ability that far exceeded his.

Currently, he had completely lost his courage when he faced Duan Ling Tian!

"I'll make a move first." Perhaps Xuan Bei felt suppressed by Duan Ling Tian, he left immediately after bidding him goodbye.

He completely disregarded all the Emyrean Temple's disciples who might have survived in Qing Feng Palace.

"Haha... Duan Ling Tian, that bald donkey's afraid of you." Huang Daniu could not help but laugh out loud when he recalled how Xuan Bei challenged Duan Ling Tian when they first entered the palace.

Back then, Xuan Bei was in high spirits and was filled with confidence.

However, he could only run away now when he encountered Duan Ling Tian!

In comparison to Huang Daniu's maniacal laugh, Duan Ling Tian did not have much of a change in his emotions.

Now that his ability had elevated, his mentality had also changed. He no longer considered Xuan Bei, the Emyrean Temple's disciple, as his opponent.

With his current ability, there were only a few people in the Empyrean Temple who were worthy to be his opponent.

Zhang Yan came out shortly after Xuan Bei left.

Zhang Yan saw Duan Ling Tian as soon as he came out, and he left after he greeted Duan Ling Tian.

"Zhang Yan." Duan Ling Tian stared at Zhang Yan until he left his sight before he snapped back to reality.

Duan Ling Tian and Zhang Yan came from the same kingdom, the Darkhan Dynasty.

Perhaps that was why he felt a sense of kinship whenever he encountered Zhang Yan.

Both of them came from Darkhan Dynasty, and they were also the most powerful young men in the current third-rate forces in the northern desert. This came as a surprise to most people.

Moreover, both of them did not only come from Darkhan Dynasty, they specifically came from the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom in Darkstone Empire that was under the Darkhan Dynasty.

Silhouettes dashed out of Qing Feng Palace and left one after another.

"Big Brother Zhang!" A while later, a silhouette that flew out of Qing Feng Palace caught Duan Ling Tian's attention. It was Zhang Shou Yong.

Zhang Shou Yong's eyes lit up when he saw Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu.

'Whoosh!'

An extremely familiar red silhouette dashed out of Qing Feng Palace half an hour after Zhang Shou Yong came out of the palace. It was as though a fire elf had appeared next to Duan Ling Tian.

"Big Brother Duan." A soft and sweet voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears.

The fire elf who stood next to Duan Ling Tian had a graceful and seductive body. Her gorgeous face could make grown men fall to their knees before her.

"Tian Wu." Duan Ling Tian wore a gentle smile on his face and looked at her with a hint of affection in his eyes.

"Where's Su Li? Why is he not out yet?" Huang Daniu could not help but frown after seeing Feng Tian Wu had also come out.

"Let's just wait," Duan Ling Tian said.

However, Duan Ling Tian and the others did not see Su Li even after people stopped coming out from Qing Feng Palace.

"Could something have happened to Su Li?" Huang Daniu mumbled solemnly.

"Don't you dare jinx it! Maybe Su Li came out earlier than you did... Maybe he left on his own because he wasn't sure if we've left yet," Duan Ling Tian rebuked and voiced his opinion.

Although he said that, he secretly felt like he did not make any sense.

"Then let's get out of here," Zhang Shou Yong suggested.

"Alright." Duan Ling Tian and the others did not object.

The four of them departed and left the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Once they left the central area, the four of them parted ways since they needed to exit from the entrance they came from.

Chapter 1005: Martial Monarch's Rage

Duan Ling Tian found the entrance he entered from in a spacious cave by following the route he remembered from his journey in the outer ring of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

The entrance was also the exit.

'Whoosh!'

Without any hesitation, Duan Ling Tian dashed out and passed through the entrance.

A flash appeared before his eyes, and he realized he had entered the boundless grassland in the Illusory Formation again.

He felt at peace when he looked at the boundless grassland before him.

"With my current speed, leaving... should take less than half the time I took when I came in!" Duan Ling Tian was extremely confident in his ability that had recently improved.

Soon after, Martial Emperor Qing Feng's voice came from the Polyphony Formation in the Illusory Formation and entered Duan Ling Tian's ears to guide him out.

Duan Ling Tian would have lost his way if Martial Emperor Qing Feng did not guide him out!

The Illusory Formation was unpredictable. Although he appeared in the grassland just like before, there were some substantive changes. It was completely different from the grassland he traveled through previously.

Moreover, Duan Ling Tian who was flying in the air soon realized a problem.

"When I first came in, I was attacked by a lot of offensive-type Inscription Formations that were placed in the Illusory Formation... However, I don't see any of those Inscription Formations now!" Duan Ling Tian mumbled to himself as he continued on his journey.

Duan Ling Tian and the group of young men continued on their journey through the Illusory Formation.

Meanwhile, everything was peaceful at Crosscut Mountain Range that was located at the intersection of the northern district and the central zone of the northern desert.

In a valley within the Crosscut Mountain Range, three old men sat in the air with their legs crossed. They were deep in cultivation mode, and it seemed like they did not have a care in the world.

The three old men sat in a cross-legged pose as though they had merged with heaven and earth, and there was no distinction between them.

'Whoosh!'

Suddenly, the wind whistled faintly from the bottom of the valley.

The faint sound of wind whistling sounded like an explosion when it entered the three old men's ears. Their eyes gleamed when they opened their eyes.

They shifted their attention to the valley, and their gazes eventually landed on a young man who was coming out of a gray light shield.

"Zuo Yue?" An old man with white hair and eyebrows who looked like a sage could not help but frown when he saw the young man.

The young man who came out of the gray light shield was none other than the most powerful young man in the current Anicca Sect, Zuo Yue!

Zuo Yue looked over when he heard somebody calling out to him. He was alert the entire time as he bowed and greeted respectfully, "Master."

The man before him was his master. He was Bai Yu Hai, the only Martial Monarch powerhouse in Anicca Sect.

"What happened, Zuo Yue? Why are you the first one out?" Bai Yu Hai asked in a deep voice.

In his opinion, the longer a person stayed in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the higher the chances he had of obtaining the Profundity Fragments Anicca Sect needed.

However, his direct disciple ended up being the first person to leave the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

A strong old man who stood nearby laughed and said, "Haha... Old Bai, it seems like your direct disciple's not that impressive!"

"I think so too! He left the Martial Emperor's secret treasure so early, I'm sure he didn't obtain any of the Profundity Fragments," an old man clad in gray said calmly, his tone was teasing.

Bai Yu Hai face turned solemn, and his expression did not look too good when he heard the two men's insulting words.

The way he looked at Zuo Yue contained a hint of displeasure as he asked again in his deep voice, "Zuo Yue, did... did you obtain any Profundity Fragments?"

Zuo Yue's expression turned strange when he heard the two men's words. However, he quickly regained his senses when he heard his master talking to him. He did not dare to delay and immediately replied, "N... No."

"I told you so... It's impossible for him to possess the Profundity Fragments since he came out so early!" The gray-clad old man said again.

"Old Bai, I always hear you boasting about how outstanding your direct disciple is in the past... It seems like he's not that impressive. He's nothing like my useless disciple, Lei Zhong," the strong old man said to Bai Yu Hai with a smile.

Bai Yu Hai's expression grew worse as he listened to the two old men's constant mockery. He glared at Zuo Yue fiercely as though he had failed him.

Zuo Yue could only force a smile on his face when Bai Yu Hai stared at him.

However, there was a hint of amusement in his eyes when he looked at the two old men.

He spoke directly, "Seniors... The reason I rushed out is to pass you some news!" Although Zuo Yue looked outwardly humble when he spoke to the two old men, there was ridicule deep in his eyes.

'How dare these two old fellows mock my master and call him useless?'

He was curious to find out what kind of expression they would make when they found out their most outstanding disciples from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect respectively were killed.

"News?" The two old men were stunned when they heard Zuo Yue's words.

Even Bai Yu Hai had doubts written on his face when he looked at Zuo Yue. He was curious about the news Zuo Yue had for the two old fellows.

In the meantime, he could not help but stare at Zuo Yue again.

To him, nothing was more important than the Profundity Fragments!

Zuo Yue had exited the Martial Emperor's secret treasure because of what happened to Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect. He was undoubtedly treating Anicca Sect's future as a joke!

"Yes," Zuo Yue responded simply as he faced the two skeptical old men before him.

"Hmph! Zuo Yue, you better be straightforward. Tell us what you want to say." The strong old man scoffed.

"Zuo Yue, since you rushed out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... It can't be that you're trying to tell us our sect's disciples have obtained the Profundity Fragments right?" The gray-clad old man asked calmly as he looked at Zuo Yue.

"Haha... Indeed, that's highly possible!" The strong old man could not help but laugh out loud when he heard what the gray-clad old man said.

Bai Yu Hai who was at the side looked even worse now.

"Seniors... I hope you'll mentally prepare yourselves before I disclose what happened to the both of you." Although Zuo Yue maintained an expression of humility on his face, there was a hint of gloating in his eyes.

"Mentally prepared? For obtaining the Profundity Fragments? You don't have to worry about that, Zuo Yue. I've been ready since the beginning," the strong old man said as he smiled.

He did not notice the hint of gloating in the depth of Zuo Yue's eyes.

However, the gray-clad old man noticed it. He frowned as a bad premonition rose in his heart, and he asked in his deep voice, "What is it exactly you're trying to tell us?"

"My condolences to the both of you," Zuo Yue said directly without further delay.

'Condolences?'

Bai Yu Hai was stunned as soon as Zuo Yue said that.

Meanwhile, the other old men's expressions changed.

"Zuo Yue, what do you mean by that?" At that moment, the strong old man and the gray-clad old men were not as laid back as they were earlier. Their expressions turned grave, and the atmosphere became tense.

"Senior Tong Shan." Zuo Yue looked at the strong old man who was the Izumo Sect's Martial Monarch powerhouse and said slowly, "Your direct disciple, Lei Zhong..."

Tong Shan's expression changed drastically before Zuo Yue even had a chance to finish his words.

Zuo Yue was interrupted by an imposing aura that was sweeping toward him. He was suppressed and immediately staggered a few steps back when the terrifying and imposing aura landed on him.

All of a sudden, Zuo Yue felt tremors in his organs as his life blood surged. There was a gurgling noise coming from his throat.

'Fwah!'

Zuo Yue whose face was flushed due to the imposing aura from Tong Shan, the Martial Monarch powerhouse, spat out a mouthful of blood from the suppression.

When a Martial Monarch powerhouse became enraged, his imposing aura alone could make a Fourth Level Void Transformation martial artist vomit blood.

One could imagine how terrifying a Martial Monarch powerhouse was.

"Tong Shan!" Bai Yu Hai's expression changed when he saw Tong Shan suppressing his direct disciple with his imposing aura.

'Fwah!'

He released a wave of imposing aura and smashed the imposing aura that Tong Shan released.

However, Tong Shan could not care less at this moment. His eyes were wide open as he stared at Zuo Yue and asked in a deep voice, "Zuo Yue, what happened to Lei Zhong?"

Zuo Yue took a deep breath. Although he was inwardly angry, he completely lost his courage when he looked at Tong Shan.

A Martial Monarch powerhouse was like a giant mountain that was impossible for him to scale.

"Senior Tong Shan, your direct disciple Lei Zhong... He's been killed!" Zuo Yue said.

'Bang!!'

What Zuo Yue said was like a lightning strike to Tong Shan whose expression changed again.

"Who? Who killed him?!" Tong Shan moved and arrived before Zuo Yue in the next second. He extended his hand in an attempt to grab Zuo Yue's shoulder. It was as though he was interrogating Zuo Yue whom he thought had killed his disciple.

At this moment, Tong Shan had completely lost the imposing manner a Martial Monarch powerhouse should have.

Currently, he was just like an ordinary old man. An ordinary old man who became enraged after hearing his direct disciple whom he had treated as his own grandchild was killed.

Bai Yu Hai was stunned by Zuo Yue's words. He immediately regained his senses when he saw Tong Shang dashing toward Zuo Yue and he quickly shouted, "Tong Shan!"

In just a blink of an eye, he completely blocked Tong Shan's way.

"Get out of my way!" Tong Shan was angered when he saw Bai Yu Hai had the intention of stopping him from finding out who killed his direct disciple.

He had lost his mind and did not care who was blocking him. He attacked as fast as lightning as he lifted his arm. The sound of air explosion reverberated in the air around them.

Tong Shan was a Martial Monarch, his power was obviously not limited to just air explosion. Gusts of majestic and strong wind swept through the entire valley.

The flowers and trees in the valley shook from his attack.

Chapter 1006: My Mind's Set!

'Bang!'

A loud explosion reverberated when Bai Yu Hai and Tong Shan's palms met.

The energies collided and create a deafening explosion that shocked one to the core. A terrifying energy swept out from the two Martial Monarch powerhouses' attacks.

In the next second, a gust of invincible airwave swept in every direction with the force of their collision in the center. The airwaves transformed into gusts of magnificent and strong wind.

All the flowers and trees in the Valley were uprooted, and it was in a state of disarray.

The two Martial Monarch powerhouses, Bai Yu Hai and Tong Shan, remained unmoved. Their abilities were at the same level and neither one of them was willing to take a step back.

"Tong Shan!" At this moment, the gray-clad old man spoke, "You should let Zuo Yue finish what he was going to say... What's the point of you acting up now? Are you able to avenge your direct disciple by acting like this?"

Tong Shan heard what he said and suppressed his rage. At the same time, he stepped away from Bai Yu Hai.

"Zuo Yue, you may speak." Tong Shan took a deep breath before he spoke to Zuo Yue who was being shielded by Bai Yu Hai.

Zuo Yue was relieved when he saw Tong Shan no longer had the intention to attack him. He then recounted his story, including the deaths of the brothers, Lei Zhong and Lei Jun.

Tong Shan became even angrier when he found out from Zuo Yue that Lei Jun was dead as well.

Apart from being his direct disciple, Lei Zhong's younger brother by blood, Lei Jun, was also the direct disciple of the Sect Leader of Izumo Sect.

Tong Shan was the one who brought Lei Jun here. Now that he was killed in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, how could he explain this to the Sect Leader when he returned to Izumo Sect?

Although the Sect Leader of Izumo Sect would have to give him some semblance of respect due to his high position in the sect and the Sect Leader would not blame him for Lei Jun's death, he could not forgive himself for this.

"They were killed by the same person!" Zuo Yue said firmly just when Tong Shan's rage reached its peak.

"Who is it?!" When Tong Shan heard what Zuo Yue said, his eyes narrowed. He was so angry, it felt like his eye sockets were going to explode. His voice was so cold as though it came from a thaw hole.

"Xu Qing... was also killed by that person!" Zuo Yue did not answer Tong Shan's question. Instead, he looked at the gray-clad old man who stood at the side. He was Feng Tong, the Martial Monarch powerhouse of North Nether Sect.

Feng Tong could no longer maintain his calm after he heard what Zuo Yue said. His expression changed, and his rage burned. "Who's that person?!"

Although Xu Qing was not his direct disciple, he was a disciple of his direct disciple. His direct disciple was the current Sect Leader of North Nether Sect, and Xu Qing was his grand-disciple. And now he was told his grand-disciple had been killed?

"His name's Duan Ling Tian!" Zuo Yue enunciated every word carefully. His eyes gleamed coldly, he had successfully provoked the two Martial Monarch powerhouses.

'Duan Ling Tian, you'll still die even if you come out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure alive!' Zuo Yue thought to himself angrily.

In Zuo Yue's opinion, it was impossible for Duan Ling Tian to survive now that he was targeted by two Martial Monarch powerhouses.

"He entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure from the other entrance. He's a disciple from a third-rate force, the Five Element Sect, in the eastern district of the northern desert..." Zuo Yue revealed everything he knew, but he withheld Duan Ling Tian's public announcement of his departure from Five Element Sect.

"Five Element Sect?" Bai Yu Hai who stood at the side was shocked when he heard Zuo Yue's words.

There was a monstrously talented young powerhouse who had appeared in the Five Element Sect many years ago. That was how he knew about the Five Element Sect.

As soon as he found out the two most outstanding young disciples from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect were killed, he no longer blamed his direct disciple, Zuo Yue, for not obtaining any Profundity Fragments for Anicca Sect.

Based on what Zuo Yue had said, he was lucky that he was still alive!

At this moment, even Bai Yu Hai who was a Martial Monarch powerhouse could not help but feel fortunate on behalf of his disciple.

"Duan Ling Tian? Five Element Sect? I, Tong Shan, will destroy that sect for killing my direct disciple!" Tong Shan lifted his head suddenly and shouted loudly at the sky.

Tong Shan's voice reverberated, and a sound wave swept up to the sky. It killed a couple of unlucky birds that happened to fly by. The birds' carcasses fell from the sky.

Although Feng Tong did not shout from the bottom of his lungs like Tong Shan did, there was cold gleam sparkling in the depth of his eyes. It was as though he was about to devour anyone he saw.

His hatred towards that Five Element Sect's disciple Duan Ling Tian, whom he had never met before, was not any lesser than Tong Shan.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was oblivious to what was happening outside Entrance No. 1.

Duan Ling Tian was unaware that he was currently targeted by two Martial Monarch powerhouses. Both of them wanted to take his life.

Soon, Duan Ling Tian returned to the spacious platform under Entrance No.2 at the end of the stone staircase. There were Illusory Formations hidden in the black mist surrounding the platform.

Duan Ling Tian stood on the platform and ignored all the disciples from Blade Sect, Emphyrean Temple, and Emotion Severing Sect around him who were leaving one after another. He would only smile whenever he saw Five Element Sect's disciples passing by.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian!"

"Senior Brother Ling Tian!"

...

Although Duan Ling Tian had announced his departure from the Five Element Sect, the disciples of the sect still treated him as their Senior Brother and idol.

The idol who singlehandedly killed the most powerful young man from a second-rate force!

There was never such a monster in the Five Element Sect's history.

Duan Ling Tian waited quietly. Finally, the person he had been waiting for appeared.

A silhouette that looked like a fire elf appeared before his eyes. "Big Brother Duan."

"Tian Wu," Duan Ling Tian responded. He smiled when he saw her. That person was Feng Tian Wu.

Her current ability far exceeded Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong. That was why Duan Ling Tian was not surprised she was the first one who arrived.

Soon, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong walked out of the Illusory Formation one after another. They then gathered around Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu.

"Let's go." Since everyone had arrived, Duan Ling Tian and the others did not stay there any longer. They walked up the stone staircase and flew toward the highest platform like bolts of lightning.

Soon after, they arrived at the top of the platform.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian and the others used the platform as leverage and flew out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure one by one. They finally appeared in the vast valley outside of Entrance No.2.

Duan Ling Tian and the three others caught everyone's attention as soon as they appeared, particularly Duan Ling Tian.

More than 90% of the people present were looking at him.

"Duan Ling Tian's out!"

"From what I know, Duan Ling Tian's the only one who obtained the Profundity Fragment out of everyone who entered from Entrance No.2!"

"Five Element Sect's in luck this time."

...

Apart from Five Element Sect's disciples, a group of disciples from Blade Sect, Emyrean Temple, and Emotion Severing Sect could not help but mutter to each other when they looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Although there was envy in their voices, none of them were jealous because they knew Duan Ling Tian depended on his powerful ability to obtain and hold on to the Profundity Fragment.

If that was not the case, Duan Ling Tian would not have been able to hold on to the Profundity Fragment even if he was lucky enough to obtain it.

"Sect Leader, Peak Master." Duan Ling Tian left as soon as they exited. He arrived before the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, Guo Chong, and Peak Master of Wood Peak, Qi Yu. A fragment sparkling with purple energy appeared as he lifted his arm.

It was the Third Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment!

Duan Ling Tian had previously obtained the Thunder Profundity Fragment from the Sword Monarch Treasure.

Ever since he traded the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment with Peng Bao, this piece of Profundity Fragment had become dispensable to him.

He had decided to give this to the Five Element Sect, and it could be considered as him returning the favor for the training the sect had given him throughout the years.

"Great, great!" Guo Chong took the Concept Fragment Duan Ling Tian passed him as senior officials from the other sects looked on with fire in their eyes. He laughed sincerely and joyfully.

As a Peak Void powerhouse, he had comprehended two types of Ninth Level Void Transformation Concepts, and one of them was the Thunder Concept.

That meant he could use the Thunder Profundity Fragment Duan Ling Tian had given him.

With the help of the Thunder Profundity Fragment, he would be able to successfully comprehend the Thunder Profundity soon. It would allow him to break through to the Martial Monarch Stage and become a Martial Monarch powerhouse.

"Congratulations, Sect Leader." Qi Feng was the first to congratulate Guo Chong.

"Congratulations, Sect Leader." At this moment, the other three Peak Masters, including Cha Bai the Fire Peak Master, congratulated Guo Chong one after another.

"Congratulations, Sect Leader." The group of Five Element Sect's disciples who had survived was next to congratulate Guo Chong.

Soon after, Guo Chong put the precious Thunder Profundity Fragment away. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked solemnly, "Duan Ling Tian, are you serious about leaving the Five Element Sect?"

The others were reminded by the announcement Duan Ling Tian had earlier.

Duan Ling Tian had invited a disaster of catastrophic proportion to the third-rate force they were in when he obtained the Profundity Fragment in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Duan Ling Tian killed the two most powerful disciples from Izumo Sect, a second-rate force in the northern desert.

The two young Izumo Sect's disciples were undoubtedly the future pillar of support for their sect, but they were killed by Duan Ling Tian.

How could Izumo Sect not be angry?

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian responded after he nodded. He did not deny it when faced with Guo Chong's questioning.

When he admitted to killing Lei Jun, and when he killed Lei Zhong, every young powerhouse present undoubtedly witnessed it.

"Duan Ling Tian, will you reconsider your decision? Perhaps we can think of a solution," Guo Chong said as he frowned.

He could not easily let go of a great hero who made a significant contribution to the sect such as obtaining a Profundity Fragment for the sect.

Qi Feng who was standing at the side said calmly, "I've got an idea."

When everyone's attention was on Qi Feng, Duan Ling Tian said determinedly, "Sect Leader, Peak Master...I've made up my mind! Let's just leave the matter as it is." Duan Ling Tian made his determination apparent with the words he had spoken.

Chapter 1007: Returning to the Darkhan Dynasty

He could not stay in the Five Element Sect forever after all.

When he joined Five Element Sect in the past, his objective was the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. Meanwhile, it was for other reason he gathered Feng Tian Wu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong together.

Now that he had achieved his goal, there was no reason for him to stay in the Five Element Sect any longer.

What happened this time presented him with the best opportunity to leave.

Qi Yu's eyes flashed when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said and saw the determination in his eyes. He nodded and said in response to Duan Ling Tian words, "Everybody has their own ambitions."

"Since you insist on leaving, it's pointless for us to ask you to stay. But remember this... You, Duan Ling Tian, will forever be our Five Element Sect's disciple! The Five Element Sect's door will forever be open to you!" Guo Chong solemnly said to Duan Ling Tian. His words were sincere and came from his heart.

"Thank you, Sect Leader." Duan Ling Tian immediately showed his gratitude after he heard what Guo Chong said.

At the same time, he looked at Qi Yu and said through Voice Transmission, "Peak Master, I won't be returning to Five Element Sect with all of you... Please take care of Ye Xuan."

"If you can, Peak Master, please take Ye Xuan as your direct disciple! Of course, don't do it for my sake but for Ye Xuan's talent and intellect... I believe Peak Master definitely won't allow a talent to go to waste." Since he was ready to leave Five Element Sect, it was only natural for Duan Ling Tian to make the necessary arrangement.

Previously, Ye Xuan had followed him to Wood Peak in Five Element Sect.

Now that he was going to leave without bidding her goodbye, he was reluctant to leave without giving her an explanation. The least he could do was give her somebody to depend on in the Five Element Sect so that she would not be bullied.

Naturally, he believed that, given time, Ye Xuan would definitely be a rising star in the Five Element Sect and stand out among all the young disciples in the sect.

"I'll take that into consideration... if she's really as outstanding as you said." Qi Yu's reply was simple and direct.

"Thank you, Peak Master." Duan Ling Tian was relieved to hear Qi Yu's promise.

He was confident in Ye Xuan's talent and intellect.

After that, Duan Ling Tian looked at Huang Daniu. His expression did not look too good, and it was obvious he did not want to see him leave. Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly at him and said, "Daniu, we'll definitely meet again one day. You don't have to behave like this... When you return this time, please say goodbye to Xiao Xuan on my behalf. Tell her I'll visit her when I have the time."

Huang Daniu nodded. "I'll take good care of Xiao Xuan, and I won't let anyone bully her."

Duan Ling Tian did not take what Huang Daniu said to heart because he knew with Ye Xuan's talent and intellect, Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, would definitely take her as his direct disciple.

Once Ye Xuan was inducted into Qi Yu's Peak and become his direct disciple, who would dare bully her?

Qi Yu's current position was different from before.

Ever since he displayed his Peak Void ability, his position in the Five Element Sect was destined to rise and catch up to Sect Leader Guo Chong.

After that, Duan Ling Tian bade goodbye to the Peak Master of Water Peak, Yu Fang, and the Peak Master of Earth Peak, Tian Gu, before leaving.

He completely ignored the Peak Master of Fire Peak, Cha Bai.

"Duan Ling Tian!" After holding back for so long, Cha Bai finally said, "You're the Five Element Sect's great hero. I, Cha Bai, acknowledge that... But why do you have to kill my direct disciple, Hu Fei?"

"I don't think Hu Fei has provoked you ever since the both of you left Five Element Sect?"

It was obvious Cha Bai had already learned about Duan Ling Tian killing his direct disciple, Hu Fei, from a few Five Element Sect disciples, and he wanted to find out what had happened.

However, Duan Ling Tian ignored Cha Bai as though he did not hear Cha Bai's words to him.

He was too lazy to explain.

'Hu Fei didn't provoke me?'

That thought itself was funny to Duan Ling Tian.

Before entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, Hu Fei even used Voice Transmission to tell the Sun Moon Sect Master Cheng Feng that his ability was far above the Sun Moon Sect's disciple, Lu Kai, and advised Cheng Feng to reject the bet with Duan Ling Tian.

It was fortunate Chen Feng did not believe what he said.

Otherwise, Duan Ling Tian definitely would not be able to obtain the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments.

Due to that reason, he killed Hu Fei shortly after they had entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

In his opinion, it was just a matter of time before Hu Fei turned into a threat if he did not die!

Zi Shang was a fine example. He did not want to see another Zi Shang in this world.

Naturally, it was not that he was afraid, but he did not want to waste time and effort dealing with all the hidden schemes.

Cha Bai's face turned grim when he saw Duan Ling Tian had completely ignored him.

Although he did not treat Duan Ling Tian as an enemy previously, that was before he killed his direct disciple, Hu Fei.

After he found out Duan Ling Tian had killed Hu Fei, there was no doubt he wanted to kill Duan Ling Tian to avenge Hu Fei!

He only had a direct disciple all his life and had treated him like family.

In the end, his direct disciple and heir were killed by Duan Ling Tian!

"Sect Leader..." Cha Bai took a deep breath and looked at Guo Chong with his blood-shot eyes. He wanted justice for his direct disciple from the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect.

However, when he noticed Guo Chong had also pretty much ignored him, he knew Guo Chong did not intend to take charge of the matter.

It made sense when one thought about it.

No matter what, Duan Ling Tian was the Five Element Sect's hero after he obtained the Profundity Fragment for the sect.

His direct disciple, Hu Fei's life was not worth mentioning when compared to the Profundity Fragment!

Cha Bai immediately swallowed what he was going to say.

He shifted his focus to Duan Ling Tian once again, his gaze was cruel and cold.

'Hmm?'

Duan Ling Tian noticed the cruelty in Cha Bai's eyes and could not help but frown as he thought to himself, 'This Cha Bai's just like his direct disciple, Hu Fei... It's just a matter of time before he brings disasters to me if he's alive...'

'Unfortunately, there's no way for me to kill him now!'

Cha Bai was the Peak Master of Fire Peak in Five Element Sect. He possessed a strength that Duan Ling Tian could not fight against. Even if Duan Ling Tian was stronger than Cha Bai, Guo Chong would not let it go if Duan Ling Tian killed Cha Bai.

There was no valid reason for him to kill Cha Bai unless he did something to endanger Duan Ling Tian's life.

No matter what, Cha Bai was still the Peak Master of Fire Peak!

His identity, position, and influence were nothing his direct disciple Hu Fei could compare to.

In the meantime, Feng Tian Wu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong from Blade Sect returned their Spatial Rings to the senior officials for inspection.

Although Feng Tian Wu obtained a Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the Profundity Fragment had merged with her body.

The Blade Sect's senior officials remained oblivious to that matter. Even if they found out, there was nothing they could do to recover the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment for their own usage.

Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong did not obtain any Profundity Fragments.

The Blade Sect's senior officials were a little disappointed after their inspection. Especially the Sect Master of Sword Sect, there was a hint of bitterness in his eyes when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian."

The Vice Sect Master of Blade Sect's House of Saber, Saber 5 stared fixedly at the five Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters and said through gritted teeth, "It's the Skywolf Fort's fault! If not for them, Duan Ling Tian would be a Blade Sect's disciple, and the Profundity Fragment he obtained would belong to Blade Sect instead of Five Element Sect."

"I curse the twenty disciples in Skywolf Fort to die!" Saber 5 added.

When they heard what Saber 5 said, the group of Blade Sect's disciples, including Feng Tian Wu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong, who survived had an odd expression on their faces.

Among the twenty Skywolf Fort's disciples, one of them who had attempted to kill Duan Ling Tian fell into a bottomless abyss.

The remaining 19 were all killed by Duan Ling Tian because they attacked him when they entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure for the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments in Duan Ling Tian's hands.

"Sect Masters, I'm planning to leave with Brother Ling Tian to return to our hometown, the Darkhan Dynasty," Zhang Shou Yong took the lead to say to the Sect Masters of Blade Sect.

Duan Ling Tian had told him about returning to their hometown before they came out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Alright." Both of the Sect Masters of Blade Sect nodded in assent.

Initially, Zhang Shou Yong with his mediocre talent and intellect was insignificant in their eyes.

However, Zhang Shou Yong had entered Blade Sect together with Feng Tian Wu, that was how they found out Zhang Shou Yong came from Darkhan Dynasty and had a family there.

"Sect Master, I'll leave with Big Brother Duan as well," Feng Tian Wu said.

She then looked at the Sword Sect's Vice Sect Master, Sword 13, and said, "Vice Sect Master, please inform my father on my behalf that I'm leaving with Big Brother Duan to Darkhan Dynasty."

Sword 13 nodded.

"Both of us old fellows don't have any opinions on you returning to your hometown... It's just that we're worried about the three of you for having to travel so far." The Sect Master of Sword Sect frowned.

"Why don't I let 13 go with all of you?"

The '13' the Sect Master of Sword Sect mentioned was naturally Sword 13, the Sword Sect's Vice Sect Master, who was also Su Li's master.

It was clear Feng Tian Wu had an important place in the Sect Master of Sword Sect's heart since he was willing to let Sword 13, the Sword Sect's Vice Sect Master, personally escort them.

"Thank you so much for your kindness, Sect Master... But I don't want to trouble Vice Sect Master." Feng Tian Wu politely rejected the Sect Master of Sword Sect's kindness.

Before she left the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, she worried about this as well when she decided to return to Darkhan Dynasty with Duan Ling Tian.

"With my current ability... It's enough to protect all of you on our journey back to Darkhan Dynasty!" That was what Duan Ling Tian said to her and Zhang Shou Yong at that time.

She could hear the confidence that came from his bones in Duan Ling Tian's voice.

Chapter 1008: A Threat

Feng Tian Wu had trusted Duan Ling Tian unconditionally ever since she knew him.

Just like how it had always been, she did not once doubt Duan Ling Tian's words neither did she doubt Duan Ling Tian's ability to protect them during their journey to Darkhan Dynasty.

In her eyes, her Big Brother Duan was the most outstanding man in this world, and nobody could compare to him!

"Let's go." Duan Ling Tian looked at Feng Tian Wu and Zhang Shou Yong before they flew away as many who were present watched them leave.

Everyone in the Five Element Sect under Sect Leader Guo Chong watched Duan Ling Tian leave before their eyes.

"Duan Ling Tian..." Qi Yu looked at the purple silhouette far away and muttered, "I wonder if I'll have the chance to see you again... If we meet again, how much would you grow by then?" Qi Yu's eyes were filled with anticipation as he muttered to himself.

He believed if he had the opportunity to see Duan Ling Tian once again, Duan Ling Tian would definitely give him a huge surprise!

He was confident about that since he had personally witnessed Duan Ling Tian's talent and intellect.

"I hope you'll live well." Qi Yu's heart thumped when he thought about the conflict Duan Ling Tian had with the northern desert's second-rate force, Izumo Sect. However, the tightness in his heart eased after a while.

"Duan Ling Tian's wise. Since he dared to kill the most powerful young man in the current Izumo Sect, Lei Zhong, I believe he has a plan."

'As long as he hides and distances himself from the northern desert... That Izumo Sect might not be able to find him!' Qi Yu thought to himself.

Qi Yu might not be so optimistic if he knew it was not only the Izumo Sect that was targeting Duan Ling Tian. There were also two second-rate forces in the northern desert, Annica Sect, and North Nether Sect, that were after him too.

"Duan Ling Tian!" The Peak Master of Fire Peak's face was grim as he watched Duan Ling Tian leave before his eyes. There was hatred in the depth of his eyes as though he was about to devour anyone who approached him.

Meanwhile, Feng Tian Wu and Zhang Shou Yong had caught up with Duan Ling Tian and flew far away. They soon vanished before everyone's eyes.

As time went by, two silhouettes flew out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"It's Senior Brother Chen and Yi!" Some of the Five Element Sect's disciples immediately recognized the duo.

They were Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect's two direct disciples.

Initially, when they noticed the two silhouettes flying out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the senior officials from the Skywolf Fort and Sun Moon Sect were a little excited before they realized who they were.

However, they were greatly disappointed after seeing both of their faces.

"What happened?"

"What aren't any of our Skywolf Fort's disciples coming out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

"Where's Zi Shang?"

...

The five Vice Fort Masters of the Skywolf Fort could not keep their composure. They could vaguely feel that something was wrong.

All the senior officials from Sun Moon Sect under Sect Leader Chen Feng did not look too good.

None of the nineteen disciples from the Sun Moon Sect who had entered had come out.

At this moment, they had an inkling that something had happened in there.

"The Vice Fort Masters of Skywolf Fort are still waiting for their disciples to come out?"

The five Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters' change in expression alerted many disciples from the Five Element Sect, Blade Sect, Empyrean Temple, and Emotion Severing Sect. They could not help but display a strange expression on their faces.

"It seems like none of them knows that all twenty of Skywolf Fort's disciples who went in are all dead."

"It's not strange they're unaware of it if none of us takes the initiative to tell them."

...

The disciples from the other four forces whispered among each other. Their voices were not loud, but it entered the five Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters' ears clearly, and their expressions changed dramatically.

All of their Skywolf Fort's disciples were dead after entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?

"What happened exactly?!" The five of them suddenly looked terrifying.

When they found out what had happened from some of the disciples from the four forces, there was a hint of helplessness in their eyes apart from the gloomy expression on their faces.

It was a sure death for Zi Shang who failed to kill Duan Ling Tian and fell into the bottomless abyss!

Meanwhile, the remaining nineteen disciples were eyeing the Ninth Level Concept Fragments in Duan Ling Tian's hands and worked with disciples from the Sun Moon Sect and Emotion Severing Sect to attack Duan Ling Tian in an attempt to kill him and obtain the treasure.

Who would have thought the result of the 48 of them going against Duan Ling Tian would be so dramatic.

With one sword, Duan Ling Tian killed most of the disciples from the three forces. Those who were not killed were severely injured.

With another swing of his sword, all of them were killed!

"Duan Ling Tian... Why him?!" If it was somebody else, the five Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters would definitely hunt the person down and kill him!

However, why was it Duan Ling Tian?

He was the Brother Ling Tian the Little Devil spoke of!

Unless they could come up with a seamless plan where they could kill Duan Ling Tian without leaving any trails behind, none of them would be able to bear the consequences.

Although they were all infuriated, they could only swallow their rage!

However, the five Skywolf Fort' Vice Fort Masters' abilities to endure did not apply to the Sun Moon Sect's senior officials.

When they heard seventeen of their Sun Moon Sect's disciples were killed by Duan Ling Tian, their expressions changed drastically as their eyes gleamed coldly. It was as though they would devour anyone who approached them.

"Duan Ling Tian! You killed my Sun Moon Sect's disciples, I want you dead!" Chen Feng shouted. He was prepared to lead the Sun Moon Sect's senior officials to chase after Duan Ling Tian and kill him to avenge the seventeen disciples.

"Sect Leader Chen Feng, if you dare to leave... The two most powerful young men from your Sun Moon Sect will definitely die when they come out!" A cold voice came out from the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, Guo Chong's mouth. His words were dripping with indifference.

"The two Sun Moon Sect's disciples are the top young men in Sun Moon Sect, and they might've obtained Profundity Fragments," Qi Yu added calmly as he stood aside and watched the senior officials from Sun Moon Sect.

What Qi Yu meant was simple.

'If all of you dare to go after Duan Ling Tian when the two most outstanding disciples from your Sun Moon Sect come out, we Five Element Sect will not only kill them, we'll also take away the Profundity Fragments they might've obtained.'

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

...

One had to admit Guo Chong and Qi Yu's threat was effective. As soon as they were done speaking, all of the Sun Moon Sect's senior officials under Sect Leader Chen Feng had a change in their expressions.

At the same time, they glared at Guo Chong and Qi Yu in rage, but they did not dare to make a move.

Although they were infuriated that seventeen of their Sun Moon Sect's disciples were killed, these 17 disciples' lives were not as precious as the two remaining disciples. The two disciples were their Sun Moon Sect's future pillar of support!

Moreover, just like Qi Yu said, there was a high possibility they had obtained Profundity Fragments from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure since they were the two most outstanding disciples in Sun Moon Sect.

"Guo Chong, you're good!" Chen Feng said through clenched teeth as he glared at Guo Chong.

"Stop praising me, Sect Leader Chen Feng." Guo Chong smiled lightly.

The corner of Zhang Yan's lips twitched when he saw the Sun Moon Sect's senior officials did not dare to give chase to Duan Ling Tian due to Guo Chong and Qi Yu's threat.

Among everyone present, he was perhaps the only one who knew the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples were dead in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

He knew that because he was the one who killed them!

Naturally, he was not dumb enough to tell the truth.

Although he did not think the Emotion Severing Sect supporting him would be afraid of Sun Moon Sect, he did not want to bring trouble to himself as well as affect the sect that had trained him and gave him the ability he had today.

"Hmph!" The five Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters scoffed and were getting ready to return to Skywolf Fort as their hovered in the air.

However, they were stopped by a ghostly silhouette as soon as they moved.

It was the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, Guo Chong.

"Sect Leader Guo, what do you think you're doing?" The leader of the five Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters, Luo Fu's face became somber when he saw Guo Chong stopping them.

"Fort Master Luo Fu, I'm not doing anything... I just want to remind all of you that if you dare do anything to Duan Ling Tian, the day when I become a Martial Monarch will be the day I end your Skywolf Fort!" Guo Chong's voice was firm and determined.

"You!!" Luo Fu's expression changed drastically, the same happened to the other four Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters as well.

They knew very well that Guo Chong was not joking with them!

Since Guo Chong had obtained the Thunder Profundity Fragment, it would not take him long to break through to the Martial Monarch Stage.

At that time, the Five Element Sect would be elevated and become the new second-rate force in the northern desert!

As soon as Guo Chong achieved Martial Monarch Stage, even the second-rate force, Izumo Sect, would have to think twice if they wanted to make a move on them.

"Sect Leader Guo, don't worry. We're just returning to Skywolf Fort. We don't intend to do anything to Duan Ling Tian... About the useless disciples from our Skywolf Fort, it's their fault that they're dead! How dare they attempt to kill and take the treasure when they don't have the ability to." After Luo Fu spoke in his deep voice, he did not plan to speak further with Guo Chong and led the other four Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters to fly toward the Ancient Desert City where Skywolf Fort was located.

In reality, they did not dare to do anything to Duan Ling Tian even without Guo Chong's threat.

Even their Fort Master of Skywolf Fort was fearful of the Little Devil to the extent where they willingly obeyed her. One could imagine how terrifying her background was.

"Sect Leader Chen Feng, I believe you're a wise man." Guo Chong looked at the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect Chen Feng. Although his tone was calm, there was a hint of threat and killing intent hidden in it.

Chen Feng's expression changed when he heard his words. He was angry, but he did not dare to say anything.

Duan Ling Tian, who had left much earlier, was naturally unaware of what was happening outside the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's Entrance No.2.

"Big Brother Zhang, when we return... Perhaps I'll be able to heal your wife's Dantian," Duan Ling Tian said with a slight smile as he looked at Zhang Shou Yong who was next to him.

'Bang!'

What Duan Ling Tian said struck Zhang Shou Yong like a bolt of lightning. He instantly stopped moving in the air as his expression changed.

"Bro-Brother Ling Tian... Are-Are you serious?!" Zhang Shou Yong asked in excitement as he looked at Duan Ling Tian who had also stopped moving.

Chapter 1009: I'm Zhao Ming!

"Of course I mean it." Duan Ling Tian smiled slightly and lifted his arm to retrieve the Immortal Spirit Herb he obtained from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. He plucked a leaf from the Immortal Spirit Herb and put it into Zhang Shou Yong's hands.

"What's this?" Zhang Shou Yong wore a doubtful expression on his face when he looked at the odd leaf sparkling with a green glow that Duan Ling Tian gave him.

Although he figured the leaf might help his wife, Wang Qiong, fix her Dantian, there was a hint of disbelief in him.

This was because it was too unbelievable!

Just one of the three leaves on the strange herb could help his wife fix her Dantian?

Was that possible?

"This will help your wife fix her Dantian," Duan Ling Tian said as he smiled. "Big Brother Zhang, don't underestimate this leaf... One leaf's powerful enough to revive a dead person and grow flesh on bones! Even a person with disabilities will grow limbs if they consume this leaf!"

"What?!" Zhang Shou Yong's expression changed drastically when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

There were shock and disbelief in his eyes when he looked at the leaf that was sparkling with a green glow in his hand.

'Could this leaf revive a dead person and grow flesh on bones?'

'Could people with disabilities grow limbs after consuming it?'

At this moment, even Feng Tian Wu who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian was shocked. She could not help the change of expression on her beautiful face.

Although her Big Brother Duan had always been a miracle maker to her, she still felt shocked after she heard about the terrifying medicinal efficacy of the leaf in Zhang Shou Yong's hands.

Zhang Shou Yong's chest heaved as his breathing quickened. He regained his senses after a while, and asked Duan Ling Tian with a burning desire in his eyes, "Bro - Brother Ling Tian, what kind of herb is this?"

Zhang Shou Yong had full confidence in Duan Ling Tian's words.

However, he could not help but feel shocked. What kind of herb had such a powerful and terrifying medicinal efficacy?

"It's called the Immortal Spirit Herb, it's considered a legend in the Cloud Continent... I didn't expect to find it in Qing Feng Palace," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile.

"Immortal Spirit Herb?" Zhang Shou Yong and Feng Tian Wu's eyes lit up when they heard his words.

Just the magical name of the herb showed it was not an ordinary herb.

"You even found a legendary herb... Your luck is just crazy!" Zhang Shou Yong exclaimed.

There was a hint of excitement in the depth of Zhang Shou Yong's eyes.

For years, his wife, Wang Qiong, could not cultivate due to her Dantian. It had always been a concern of his.

Now that there was a chance for his wife to heal her Dantian and began cultivating again, he felt an excitement from the bottom of his heart.

He could finally erase the concern he had for years!

"Thank you, Brother Duan Ling Tian." Zhang Shou Yong sincerely thanked Duan Ling Tian.

The gratitude came from the bottom of his heart because Duan Ling Tian gave him such a precious herb.

"Big Brother Zhang, do we need to be so polite to each other? If it wasn't for you back in the Ancient City of Everlast of Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, I would've been dead years ago. I wouldn't have been able to achieve what I achieved today," Duan Ling Tian said as he shook his head.

"Brother Duan Ling, that's all in the past... It's a small matter and not worth mentioning," Zhang Shou Yong said.

"Big Brother Zhang! Perhaps it's a small matter to you... But to me, you saved my life! I need to return the favor by many folds. Even more so because you saved my life. Doesn't that make sense?" Duan Ling Tian solemnly said.

If Zhang Shou Yong did not save his life back then, he would have died, let alone achieved all that he had.

"Alright, let's not talk about this anymore." Zhang Shou Yong changed the topic when he saw Duan Ling Tian turning serious. "Brother Ling Tian, are you going to heal Xiong Quan's Dantian by using the Immortal Spirit Herb when you return to Darkhan Dynasty?"

Zhang Shou Yong clearly remembered Xiong Qian was the middle-aged man who was by Duan Ling Tian's side back then.

Back then, his Dantian was broken by someone at the Eternal Jade Restaurant that the couple established.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded as his eyes gleamed. "Back then, his Dantian was broken because of me... It's my responsibility. Healing his Dantian can be considered as me returning the favor."

He could not forgive himself for what happened to Xiong Quan.

"Brother Ling Tian, don't overthink things... I could see Xiong Quan did not blame you. Moreover, Xiong Quan's open-minded. I believe he's been living well all these years even without Origin Energy." Zhang Shou Yong comforted Duan Ling Tian.

"Hmm." Duan Ling Tian nodded, he hoped things were like what Zhang Shou Yong said.

Duan Ling Tian lifted his arm and put the Immortal Spirit Herb away in his Spatial Ring.

The Immortal Spirit Herb he had in his hand originally had three leaves. Now that he gave Zhang Shou Yong one, he was only left with two leaves.

After Zhang Shou Yong put the Immortal Spirit Herb's leaf that he treated like a treasure away in his Spatial Ring, Duan Ling Tian and the other two continued on their journey to Darkhan Dynasty. They were traveling at lightning speed.

"Brother Ling Tian, which level of Qing Feng Palace did you obtain the Immortal Spirit Herb from?" Zhang Shou Yong asked inquisitively while they were traveling.

He was very curious about where Duan Ling Tian obtained such a legendary herb.

Feng Tian Wu heard Zhang Shou Yong and looked at Duan Ling Tian curiously as well.

"The first level," Duan Ling Tian said. "When I arrived at the first level, I appeared at the back of a corridor... There were many stone rooms you could enter along the way. However, the sculptures outside would attack once you enter."

"And if you leave the stone room, the sculptures would return to where they were and cease their attacks." Duan Ling Tian found out about the second part from Huang Daniu.

At the Qing Feng Palace's first level, each and every one of the sculptures that attacked him after he entered the stone rooms were destroyed by him.

Therefore, he had no idea the sculptures would return to their position if he had left the room.

"We had the same experience," Zhang Shou Yong said.

Feng Tian Wu nodded, her experience was similar too.

"I found the Immortal Spirit Herb at the end of the corridor at Qing Feng Palace's first level that was connected to the central stone room at the second level... As long as you're able to defeat the three young powerhouses who were arranged to fight you, you would be able to enter and continue on to Qing Feng Palace's second level," Duan Ling Tian said.

He still remembered the stone room was called the One-in-Four Stone Room.

"I didn't manage to get there... I was arranged to fight with a North Nether disciple." Zhang Shou Yong forced a smile on his face.

Perhaps his talent and ability could be considered good in a third-rate force, but he was just mediocre in a second-rate force like North Nether Sect.

Almost all the North Nether disciples who had entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure were the outstanding ones in the current North Nether Sect. He was far behind compared to them.

"I went into that stone room... But I didn't see the Immortal Spirit Herb. I only obtained a grade one spirit weapon that gives an 89% boost," Feng Tian Wu said.

A grade one spirit weapon with 89% boost was the best of the best among grade one spirit weapons. It was just slightly lesser than the grade one spirit weapons Duan Ling Tian could refine.

Duan Ling Tian was not surprised when he heard what Feng Tian Wu said.

The Immortal Spirit Herb was a legendary medicinal herb after all. It was impossible for it to appear in every single One-In-Four Stone Room.

He had figured it out earlier.

It was due to sheer luck he was able to obtain the Immortal Spirit Herb.

"Tian Wu, what did you go through when you were at the second level?" Duan Ling Tian continued to ask.

Soon after, he learned about Feng Tian Wu's journey in Qing Feng Palace from the bottom level and all the way up. However, there was nothing about the giant wooden figure on the second level.

In other words, Feng Tian Wu did not encounter the mysterious Inscription Formation that combined the broken wood in the corridor into a giant wooden figure or the odd stone platform on the second level.

'Seems like it's similar to the Immortal Spirit Herb... The odd stone platform's one in a million! Of course, it's possible Tian Wu did not activate the Inscription Formation on the stone platform at the second level,' Duan Ling Tian speculated on his own.

'The rest are similar... At the fourth level, Tian Wu could only retreat since she did not force herself to perform the Fire Profundity when she encountered the Earth Energy that was equivalent to 1,500 ancient horned dragon's strength on the Bumpy Road,' Everything was similar to his speculation.

'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!'

Loud explosions came from somewhere as Duan Ling Tian and the other two continued on their journey to the Darkhan Dynasty.

...

Within a remote mountain range in Darkhan Dynasty, loud explosions suddenly sounded from a dark mountain cave. The mountain range shook intensely as though heaven and earth were falling apart.

After the tremors, an old man with black fog emitting out of his body flew out of the mountain cave.

The old man's eyes were bloodshot and emotionless.

"Ahh!!"

Suddenly, the old man lifted his arms and held his head. He began to scream as he bent over in pain.

The old man's voice was heartrending. It was as though he was being tortured.

"I... I'm Zhao Ming! I'm Zhao Ming! Yes... I'm Zhao Ming!!"

"Seven Star Sword Sect... Azure Forest Tri-Sect... Duan Ling Tian... Yes! It's Duan Ling Tian! He's my enemy! He's my enemy!!"

"I'm going to kill him! I'm going to kill him!!"

...

Finally, the old man stopped screaming as he stood upright again. His eyes were red and filled with killing intent as he looked around, seemingly lost.

"Where's this place?" The old man frowned and tried his best to remember. However, he discovered he could not remember anything.

"Duan Ling Tian! I'm going to kill you! I'm going to kill you!!" Soon, the old man quit thinking and shouted from his lungs with a somber face.

There was hatred and violence in the old man's voice when he screamed.

Chapter 1010: Hu Li

As the old man was shouting, the black fog surrounding his body was roiling like boiling water.

All of a sudden, the air current began to compress, and the sound of air explosion reverberated.

Moreover, a gust of invisible airwave swept out and transformed into gusts of majestic and strong winds that blew in every direction when the air explosion sounded.

The plants and trees in the forest shook with the old man at the center. Birds that perched on the trees flew away one after another from the shock and disappeared into the sky.

'Whoosh!'

It was unknown when a black silhouette appeared in the air above the mountain range.

"This semi-finished product doesn't look too bad... But he's still clinging on to old grudges. I'll need to work on him a little bit more in order to completely control him," the black silhouette muttered to himself, it seemed like he was dissatisfied.

"The only thing I can do now is to allow him to take his revenge... As soon as he's done with that, his will is bound to disappear! At that time, I'll be able to completely control his mind and turn him into a real walking dead."

"However, his mind is muddled due to his condition... I'm afraid it'll take some time before he finds his enemy."

...

'Whoosh!'

The black silhouette that appeared out of nowhere vanished again like it was never there.

Meanwhile, the old man named Zhao Ming was completely stunned as he stood in the air.

At this moment, his head was raised as he looked at the sky above his head. He was stunned, and a hint of disbelief filled his eyes. "How... How's this possible?!"

The Heaven and Earth Energy rumbled before a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon formed in the sky.

Ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared one after another. Zhao Ming was stunned as they descended majestically before his eyes.

With just a glance, he could see there were at least 7,000 to 8,000 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes in the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon before his eyes!

"7,000 to 8,000 ancient horned dragons' strength... This is my strength?"

At this very moment, Zhao Ming felt the majestic strength lingering in his body as shock filled his eyes. He could not help but smile.

The strength he currently possessed was a few hundred more than what he had previously!

"No... My strength doesn't seem to come from Origin Energy. Moreover, I... can't seem to establish a connection with my Concepts... What happened exactly?" Soon after, a wave of energy as black as ink appeared in Zhao Ming's hand when lifted his arms. The black energy was rolling and sparkling continuously in the surroundings.

"This energy... It isn't Origin Energy nor is it Concept... but it seems to be even more powerful than Origin Energy and Concept! What kind of energy is this?" Zhao Ming mumbled to himself as he casually pushed his palm out.

All of a sudden, the energy, that was as black as ink, in his hand turned into a gigantic palm surrounded with black fog and immediately shot out before it disappeared as quickly as it appeared.

'Bang!'

A loud explosion echoed as gravels flew all over the place.

A gigantic and bottomless hole was created when Zhao Ming slammed his palm on the mountain wall nearby. Zhao Ming stared at his palm for a long time, even he was taken aback by the force of his palm.

"Is this my strength? Am I still... me?" Zhao Ming was completely stunned.

"No! I remember my cultivation base was damaged by Duan Ling Tian, and he destroyed my limbs as well... What exactly happened to me?" Zhao Ming looked lost as he continued to shake his head. He could not figure out what had happened.

"Perhaps this is just a dream?"

"If it's a dream, why does it feel so real? How did I end up here? How did I come to possess such odd strength?"

...

Zhao Ming could not figure out anything at all even as he tried to recall them.

"Ahh!!" Soon after, a piercing pain appeared inside Zhao Ming's head, perhaps it was due to his effort in trying to remember. He screamed from his lungs again.

All of a sudden, the screaming stopped.

At this moment, Zhao Ming's blood-shot eyes were dimmed. It was as though they had lost their color.

Zhao Ming was like a completely different person at the moment. His eyes were lifeless, and his body emitted an extremely chilly aura. He was like a real walking dead.

'Whoosh!'

Zhao Ming moved and flew out of the remote mountain range. He was flying aimlessly as though he had nowhere to be.

Three silhouettes flying in the sky came to a halt outside of the Darkhan Dynasty's Capital.

"Brother Ling Tian, Miss Tian Wu... Both of you are really not coming over to my house?" Zhang Shou Yong asked as he looked at the purple-clad young man and red-clad lady before him.

They were Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu who had followed Zhang Shou Yong back to the Darkhan Dynasty.

Although Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu had to follow Zhang Shou Yong's speed, it did not take them too long to arrive in Darkhan Dynasty.

"Big Brother Zhang, you should go back and be with your wife... You don't have to worry about us. Are you worried that we'll encounter danger in Darkhan Dynasty?" Duan Ling Tian smiled as he shook his head.

"That's not it... It's just that I feel Qiong and I should thank you properly no matter what since you're helping her fix her Dantian," Zhang Shou Yong said earnestly.

"Big Brother Zhang, it's really kind of you to say this... But we're going to make a move now." Duan Ling Tian left as soon as he finished speaking.

A red silhouette similar to a fire elf trailed after Duan Ling Tian like his shadow. Zhang Shou Yong's smiled wryly, and he shook his head as he watched both of them disappear before his eyes.

"Brother Ling Tian and Miss Tian Wu are a match made in heaven since they're both like wind and fire..." Zhang Shou Yong shook his head and smiled before flying up into the sky toward to Capital. He landed when he arrived above a spacious estate, his movement was as smooth as flowing water.

Zhang Clan Estate!

"Qiong!"

When Zhang Shou Yong landed, he ignored the servants' judgmental eyes and rushed excitedly into a compound.

It was the residence he used to live in with his wife, Wang Qiong.

...

"Big Brother Duan, are you going to look for Xiong Quan?" Feng Tian Wu, who was next to Duan Ling Tian, asked curiously.

"Let's not rush into visiting Xiong Quan, we'll follow the proximity principle... Let's drop by Clarity City first!" Duan Ling Tian said as his eyes gleamed.

"Clarity City?" Feng Tian Wu nodded. Although she had no idea why Duan Ling Tian wanted to go there, she was considerate and did not probe any further since she knew Duan Ling Tian had his reason for wanting to go there.

It was just like what Feng Tian Wu had thought, Duan Ling Tian, indeed, had his own reason for going there.

He was going to Clarity City to look for a person.

That person was Hu Li!

The name Hu Li was a little unfamiliar to the current Duan Ling Tian.

However, he would never forget this name.

He remembered not long after he entered the Seven Star Sword Sect, he encountered a small team from Seven Star Sword Sect when he was testing out the Quake Energy in the primeval forest behind the sect.

There was a total of three people in the small team. They were Hu Li, Shi Lan, and Shao Fei.

Shao Fei was the vicious one, he tried to sabotage Duan Ling Tian many times while they were in the primeval forest. However, his plan failed. Instead, things took a turn in the other direction, and Duan Ling Tian had severely injured and almost killed him.

If Hu Li and Shi Lan's did not beg for mercy on behalf of Shao Fei, he would have surely killed Shao Fei.

However, that was just the beginning of the disaster.

Later on, Shao Fei got his brother to avenge him. Due to that, Shi Lan died when she fell off a cliff, and Hu Li's leg was severed!

Although he killed both Shao Fei and his brother to avenge Shi Lan and Hu Li, it was impossible to restore Shi Lan's life and Hu Li's severed leg

However, he could heal Hu Li's leg now that he possessed the Immortal Spirit Herb.

He still remembered Hu Li had someone tell Duan Ling Tian that his home was the Hu Clan Estate in the Clarity City before he left.

Clarity City was a medium-sized city.

After asking around, Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu finally arrived in this unfamiliar city.

Clarity City was just a small city to them since they had left Darkhan Dynasty and had seen the world outside of the Foreign Lands.

When they arrived in Clarity City, Duan Ling Tian asked for the direction to the Hu Clan Estate and brought Feng Tian Wu along with him.

"Hu Li? Do you mean Sir Li? It's too bad, but Sir Li returned to the Seven Star Sword Sect a couple of months ago when he found out the sect was being rebuilt. He wanted to contribute to the sect."

At the Hu Clan Estate's entrance, Duan Ling Tian learned of Hu Li's whereabouts from a Hu Clan member. He did not expect Hu Li would return to the Seven Star Sword Sect.

"Since both of you know Sir Li, are both of you Sir Li's friends?" The Hu Clan member asked.

"That's right." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Since both of you are Sir Li's friends, you can stay at our Hu Clan Estate for a few days... When I inform the Patriarch about this, he'll get someone to inform Sir Li at the Seven Star Sword Sect," the Hu Clan member said again.

"It's alright... We'll look for him at the Seven Star Sword Sect." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and left Clarity City with Feng Tian Wu in tow as they headed toward the Seven Star Sword Sect.

He was surprised by what he saw when they arrived at the Seven Star Sword Sect.

Compared to that time when he left the Seven Star Sword Sect, there were major changes in the sect. It had flourished.

'This Mo Yu fellow did a great job.' Duan Ling Tian could not help but compliment inwardly.

Duan Ling Tian did not notify anyone about his trip.

After he informed Feng Tian Wu, he changed into the Seven Star Sword Sect's inner court disciple's clothes he used to wear, and he entered the main peak of the sect, Dubhe Peak.

"Hi there, Senior Brother, do you know where Senior Brother Hu Li is?" Duan Ling Tian asked an inner court disciple, who looked like he was approximately thirty years old after he entered Dubhe Peak.

"I bet you've only just joined our Seven Star Sword Sect, right?" The inner court disciple looked at Duan Ling Tian as though he was a fool.